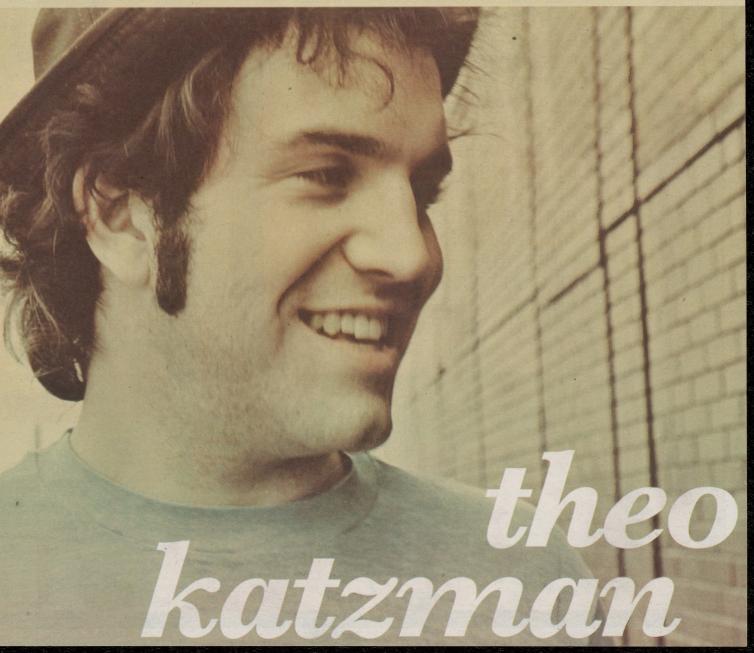


FEBRUARY 2011

The Washtenaw County Events and Entertainment Monthly

WWW.MISPYMAG.COM

around you flat top grill ann arbor folk festival introducing emYOU!





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# 3rd Annual FORD LAKE **FROZEN LEAP**



The Ford Lake Frozen Leap really puts the FUN back in fundraising! Basically, the idea is to do the unimaginable and jump in Ford Lake in the middle of winter! All jumpers get dressed up in costumes (team or individual) and when it's time to jump, make the best dive you can into the lake! When you get out we'll wrap you up in a big warm towel, hose you down with hot water and then ship you off to our heated changing rooms! We like to pamper our jumpers! This year we're really excited about raising even more money for the American Heart Association. Last year we raised a little over \$6,000 and with your help, we're shooting for \$10,000 this year.

The Ford Lake Frozen Leap is really like a big out door party! We've got a live di spinning, tons of FREE food (for leapers) thanks to our sponsors and a bunch of great people having a great time! Another bonus we're adding this year is a Soup Off, where local restaurans will compete for FLFL's best soup contest!

FLFL is an incredible event for an incredible cause. Make sure you make it down to Lake Shore Apartments for all the action. Even if you're not going to jump, being in the crowd is almost just as fun!

## Schedule

10-11AM: Registration (Sign in, hand in money raised)

11-12PM: Announce awards and get ready to leap!

12-1PM: LEAP!!

1-2PM: Meltdown Mingle (Coffee and hot chocolate)

Why: February is "Heart" month. All proceeds to benefit American Heart Association

Who: Anyone can jump! Register your team and raise a minimum of \$50/leaper/team.

Where: The Lake Shore Apartments at 2500 Lakeshore Blvd. Ypsilanti, MI 48198



**American** Heart **Association**®

Learn and Live





**REGISTER AT WWW.FROZENLEAP.COM** 

# contents FEBRUARY 2011

## [sneak peek]

06 Ann Arbor Folk Festival

## [scene]

08 **Snowboard Tips** 

10 **Adventures in Food** 

11 **Ice Skating Venues** 

12 Taste of the Month

13 Woodruff's

## [features]

Theo Katzman

## [around YOU]

16 Events

## [review]

19 Kick Some App: Verizon Review

20 Rate it!

## [emYOU!]

24 Student Spotlight: Elyssa Rautiola

26 Professor Spotlight: Henry Aldridge

**Alumnus Spotlight: Doug Schulze** 

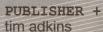
29 Winter Sports

## [depot town rag]

33 Living it "UP" in Depot Town



Elyssa Rautiola + pg 24



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#### NEW YEAR + NEW MAGAZINE + NEW WEBSITE

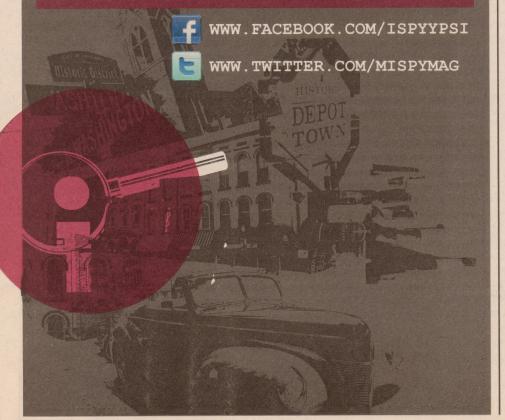
It's a new year and a new iSPY! We've been busy over the holiday season and we're excited about our re-launch for 2011. We continue to grow every month. We extremely appreciate all the support we've received, and we can't thank YOU enough! Keep reading and, as always, feel free to reach out and let us know what you think.

## NEW MAGAZINE

We're expanding and adding some sections. We've swallowed up emYOU! The Magazine, which is now a section within iSPY. Inside you'll find campus spotlights and athletics highlights from EMU. We'll be covering more events and featuring more content from throughout Washtenaw County. You can even pick us up in more places now!

### NEW WEBSITE

We have an impressive and engaging website that not only compliments the print version of iSPY, but adds to it! Users will be able to login, have their own profile, generate points through interaction and be rewarded simply for reading and socializing with others on the site. Users will also be able to upload events to our calendar for FREE. Read the digital magazine, view videos and photos and so much more!





## m'lady's: all-natural, all for you

#### BY AMANDA SLATER >>>>>

A small, independent, environmentally principled company, M'Lady's is an Ann Arbor based company that produces all natural soaps, balms and body oils. The company was started by Cynthia High, who grew up on a farm in Ann Arbor and learned soapmaking from her grandmother at a young age.

M'Lady's uses a soap making process that doesn't cook the soap, ensuring that the vitamins, minerals and nutrients in the products are not destroyed during the process. The soaps are then allowed to cure for several months on wooden drying racks.

"I see no reason at all for anybody to be using any kind of chemicals or chemically treated oils in their products. Everything that touches our skin gets absorbed transdermally, from our skin into our bloodstream, and, depending on what it is, this can take anywhere from 26 seconds to maybe 80 seconds," says High.

For this reason, only natural and organic food grade ingredients are used in M'Lady's products, and all products are packaged in amber glass apothecary iars or recycled boxes.

"I never use plastic because plastic leeches toxins into the product, which is very important for me to avoid," she says.

#### FEATURED PRODUCTS:

Bergamia Soap

"One of my favorite products is the Bergamia Soap. Bergamot is a Mediterranean citrus fruit that has a lovely scent to it and has been used in perfumery since the 17th century," says High.

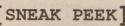
IASO Hand, Body & Lip Balm

"It is made with litsea cubeba, a Mediterranean citrus fruit that has been used for 100 years for dermatitis, eczema and skin conditions and is a natural skin toner," says High. IASO balm is also popularly used as a night cream and lip balm.

Friar's Balsam Hand & Body Balm

"Friar's Balsam is a syrup that has been used since the middle ages for healing. It helps relax muscles and heal cuts and wounds. It's the only balm of mine that contains hemp seed oil," says High. Friar's Balsam Hand & Body Balm is also helpful in relieving dry skin, eczema and other skin conditions.

M'Lady's products can be purchased at People's Food Co-op in Ann Arbor, Arbor Farms market and Plum Market. They can also be purchased at the Dexter Farmer's market on Saturdays (May through October) and at the Ann Arbor artist market on Sundays (April through December) or ordered via phone and email. For more products and information, visit www.mladys.com.





"ann arboi folk festival

> FEATURING THE AVETT BROTHERS, CITIZEN COPE & THE SWELL SEASON BY ADRIENNE ZIEGLER >>>>>>

be a staple in the Ann Arbor community.

The Ann Arbor Folk Festival rings in 34 years of great folk music on Jan. 28 and 29 at Hill Auditorium, with some exceptional headliners sure to please even modest folk fans.

"No matter what folk music means to you, you'll find it at the festival," said The Ark's Marketing Director Barb Chaffer Authier.

Headliners this year include recent chart-toppers The Avett Brothers as well as Citizen Cope on Friday night. On Saturday, The Swell Season, the duo featured in the movie "Once," and folk icons Judy Collins and Mavis Staples will headline.

Each day of the festival also includes shorter showcase performances by up-and-coming artists and regional acts before the headliners, giving the audience a taste of something new and different.

"The philosophy behind the booking at the festival is that the Friday night will be a little bit more geared towards artists that push the boundaries of what it means to play folk music," said Chaffer Authier. "All those people still fit into what we think of as folk music."

Saturday's lineup features artists and singersongwriters that meet more traditional folk standards, she added.

"The concept is the same, but you're going to find something new every year," she said.

where they could talk, listen to music, and generally escape the personal and academic stresses of college. Over the years, the funding from the churches decreased, and, in 1977, the Ann Arbor Folk Festival was born to raise money to balance to budget.

That first year, folk legend John Prine headlined the one-night event, and it was so successful that they decided to hold it every year.

In 2003, Hill Auditorium underwent renovations, making it impossible to hold the festival there. Organizers moved the event to the Michigan Theatre for that year, but, in order to accommodate the same number of people, they changed the format to a twonight festival.

The concept stuck, and now, even though the festival has moved back to Hill Auditorium, the tradition of two days of music continues.

Chaffer Authier said the festival is the Ark's biggest fundraiser and brings in about 20 percent of The Ark's operating budget every year.

To find out more about the Ann Arbor Folk Festival, visit The Ark's website at http://theark.org.

General public tickets for the event range from \$30 to \$47.50 for a single night and \$50 to \$85 for both evenings. Sponsorship packages are also available. Tickets are available through Ticketmaster.





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DJ STARTS @ 10PM COVER IS \$6 & \$10 (BUT HALF OFF WITH A VALID VIP CARD)

**IMPROV NIGHT GREAT STAND-UPS CROWD PARTICIPATION** IN IMPROV SKITS & IMPROV GAMES. DOORS @ 8PM SHOW BEGINS @ 9:30 PITCHER SPECIALS AND L.I.I.T.

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# 

uying a Snowboard is never easy, especially for those of you who may just be getting into the sport. There are about 70 different companies out there all competing for your attention and your money, trying to convince you that they are the best choice. With so many different options, the decision to invest in a snowboard needs to be an informed one that requires answering a couple of different key questions before hand.

HOW TO BUY, WHAT TO LOOK FOR & THIS YEAR'S TOP TRENDS BY LILY DUEVEL >>>>>>>>>

#### WHAT IS YOUR RIDING ABILITY?

- Beginner first time, taking lessons, snowboarded 1-3 times
- Intermediate board 3-5 times per year, turning is no problem
- Advanced you know who you are!

#### WHAT TYPE OF RIDING STYLE DO YOU PREFER?

- All mountain / free ride style you enjoy utilizing the whole mountain
- Freestyle or technical riding jumps, grabs, spins, jibbing, rail sliding on the half pipe
- Carve / alpine style combines speed and deep turns utilizing everything the mountain has to offer



#### LENGTH:

A good rule of thumb is that the board should stand between your chin and your nose when standing on its tail

#### WEIGHT:

A major factor in determining the correct board size also has to do with your weight. Riders who are heavy should look for boards that have a stiffer flex. Lighter riders will need a board with a softer flex.

#### MEN'S:

The Burton Blunt Snowboard never sugar-coats anything but your landings. This true twintip, true rocker board doesn't have the slightest idea how to tell a lie. Forget about catching edges-it won't happen. The Blunt was designed to make you look good in the park, and it will. Model Year: 2010

Sizes: 158cm, 155cm, 147cm, 142cm, 151cm

Colors: One Color

\$369.95

Driver X Boot "Best response in the business." \$349.95

Snowboard width is usually directly related to your boot size. You need a board wide enough so that your heels and your toes do not drag in the snow while performing a turn.

#### WOMEN'S:

The GNU WomenAAAs B-Nice BTX Series Snowboard hates to disappoint, so it somehow manages to be everything to everyone. Expert riders looking for a board that doesn't wipe out their beer fund will revel in the B-NiceAAAs outstanding advanced technology, while newbies will find these same features fun, forgiving, and confidencebuilding. For all the B-NiceAAAs efforts, Transworld Snowboarding recognized it with a pat on the head and the 2009 Good Wood award.

Model Year: 2010

Sizes: 145cm, 154cm, 151cm, 148cm

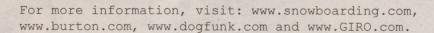
Colors: Geometric, Floral

\$399

**Burton Sapphire Boot** "For those who love to live in their boots." \$229.95



GIRO Unisex Chapter Helmet: In-mold construction, Interior subliner, 8 Super Cool vents with Thermostat control, Intake Port vent system, Stack Vent. Compatible with all aftermarket TuneUps systems. Available in: Matte Black, Matte Black Static, Matte Brown Low, Matte Pewter, Matte Soda and Matte White.









2 TICKETS AND 2 LIMITED EDITION MADE IN DETROIT T-SHIRTS FOR ONLY \$29!

**JANUARY MADE IN DETROIT SATURDAY NIGHTS:** 



**SATURDAY, 1/8 • 7:30 PM** 

Greg Monroe Signature Hat to first 5,000 fans courtesy of Cavalier





SATURDAY, 1/15 • 7:30 PM

See the Pistons take on Rookie of the Year Tyreke Evans and the Kings



SATURDAY, 1/22 • 7:30 PM

See the Pistons take on two-time MVP Steve Nash and the Suns

#### **ALSO IN JANUARY:**

WED, 1/12 vs. MEMPHIS • 7:30 PM

Way Back Wednesday - Elvis Night

Spare Tires 2011 Calendar to first 5,000 fans courtesy of RELLE TIRE

MON, 1/17 vs. DALLAS • 3:30 PM

MLK Day - Special matinee start time - Tickets as low as \$10! Hooper "Grow Up Great" Guide to first 5,000 fans courtesy of PNC

WED, 1/26 vs. DENVER • 7:30 PM

Way Back Wednesday - Decades Night - 70's, 80's and 90's

248-377-0100

/ PISTONS.COM

ticketmaster



SCENE]

# adventures in local food #2





As we left our heroine in our last installment, we were trying to expose the fear of food at the heart of the bureaucratic challenges undermining our ability to chose to eat local. It was a fear that became even more pervasive in late December when the Food Safety Modernization Act (S510) passed the Senate with a rarely-before-seen level of bipartisan support. Both lauded and demonized by diverse groups of people, S510 has caused controversy and conflict in the local food movement for about two years (and I could probably talk about it for that long). So, what I will say here in summary is that although the challenges I faced in launching my Ypsi-Grown, Ypsi-Made hot sauce business were hard to surmount, especially without the support of the Michigan Cottage Food Bill, things are about to get a whole lot more difficult for small-scale growers and producers across the US.

Do you remember that E. Coli outbreak linked to spinach in California a few years back? It's one of multiple cases cited as evidence for the need to overhaul national food safety legislation with S510. In fact, "cut leafy greens" are now considered a potentially hazardous food due to this outbreak, even though that spinach was contaminated by run-off from a neighboring hog farm, not during the cultivation process itself. But, because of news coverage of food safety scares such as this one, a picture has been painted that agriculture is fundamentally dangerous and the present FDA can't effectively regulate production to stop foodborne illness. The solution? Extended bureaucratic scrutiny over fruit and vegetable production. Sounds harmless, but where it all goes wrong is that S510 doesn't address the root causes of food illness outbreaks (the unsanitary, often contaminated growing conditions associated with industrial agriculture).

Actually, it further perpetuates food safety problems by forcing small-scale, safe producers to undergo the same evaluation process and be subject to the same costly bureaucratic scrutiny as the agribusiness operations at the heart of food safety scares. In essence, it causes them to industrialize. But, let's clarify, the legislation is not actively trying to put farmers out of business or make organic farming and backyard gardening illegal. It is trying to police industrial farms and processing facilities that keep sickening people with their food. And that's good. However, reducing farm diversity and the number of producers in the process tends to make our food supply less safe, not more. In addition, the unintended consequences of \$510 make it more difficult for small-scale producers to be in business, thereby making it harder to get local food into grocery stores, restaurants and even farmer's markets.

Why then are legislators trying to solve a problem caused by industrial agriculture by making agriculture more industrialized? Do they realize that they are either driving us small-producers out of business or driving us underground? I know I'm not the only one who thinks we only make ourselves more prone to food illness outbreaks by accidentally forcing non-industrial producers out of business with

costly regulations or by incidentally undermining organic agriculture with further standardization. So I guess our voices must just need to be louder to get us past this regulatory tunnel vision.

To move forward, we need to do more to challenge the ever-present fear of food and point out that food cultivation is not fundamentally dangerous but is made dangerous by unsafe growing and distribution conditions (Bird flu, anyone?). So put down the hand sanitizer and take responsibility for your own food safety choices. Buy from a local producer whose facility you can go see. Or even grow your own. To me, the tangible solution is for us to have more consumer agency, not anonymous agriculture regulated by ever-expanding bureaucracies...

Next time we will talk more about how industrial agriculture makes seasons disappear and allows people to have the bizarre luxury of cheap tomatoes all year, and why we like it. But if you'd like to know more about S510 now, check out: http://www.govtrack.us/congress/bill.xpd?bill=s111-510 and http://www.govtrackinsider.com/articles/2010-11-15/s510\*

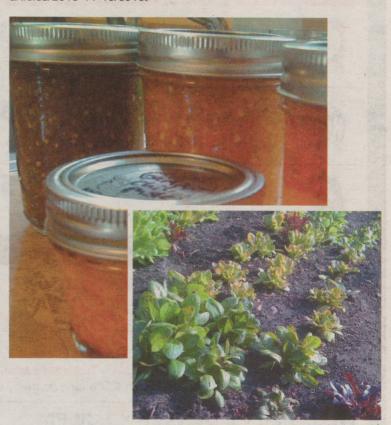


PHOTO: STEFANIE STAUFFER

## local ice skating venues grab your skates and head to one winter fun BY ADRIENNE ZIEGLER >>>>>>>>



Nothing brings on the warm fuzzies of winter in Michigan like a glide around the ice rink. The heat from the fire, the taste of snack shack cotton candy, and the smell of the hockey team mingling with burnt nacho cheese really brings back nostalgic moments from childhood. So dig out the blades you haven't used since you were 14 and take a road trip to one of the area's many great local ice rinks to show off your triple Salchow or even play a game of drop-in hockey.

///Veterans Memorial Park Sports Complex

Location: 2150 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Phone: (734)794-6235

Website: http://www.a2gov.org/government/ communityservices/ParksandRecreation/ veteransmemorialsportscomplex

Indoor/Outdoor: Indoor

Public Skate: Available (nearly) everyday. Adult-only skate times also available.

Fees: \$5 for Adults/\$4 for Youth & Seniors (Additional \$1 for Non-residents), \$3 Skate Rental Hockey: Leagues available. Limited drop-in. What Makes it Unique: Chicks kick ass every Friday

night during MACRHL Women's Hockey League. Even beginners can join. Visit http://www.macrhl.org to find out more.

///Ann Arbor Ice Cube

Location: 2121 Oak Valley Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Phone: (734)213-1600

Website: http://www.a2ice3.com

Indoor/Outdoor: Indoor

Public Skate: Everyday. Check website for times.

Fees: \$4 for Adults/\$3 for Youth & Seniors,

\$3 Skate Rental

Hockey: Drop-in and leagues available

for all skill levels.

What Makes it Unique: It's the Cube ... It's one of the best venues in the area for amateur hockey and

figure skating.

///Buhr Park Ice Arena

Location: 2751 Packard Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Phone: (734)794-6234

Website: http://www.a2gov.org/government/ communityservices/parksandrecreation/buhr/

Indoor/Outdoor: Outdoor

Public Skating: Available every day.

Check website for times.

Fees: \$5 for Adults/\$3.75 for Youth & Seniors (with

minimal additional non-resident fees),

\$3 Skate Rental

Hockey: Drop-in Hockey and Leagues Available What Makes it Unique: Buhr is a WDIV Local 4

nominee for the 2010 Best Local Ice Rink.

///Yost Arena

Location: 1000 South State Street, Ann Arbor, MI

Phone: (734) 764-4600

Website: http://yost.ath.umich.edu/

Indoor/Outdoor: Indoor

Public Skating: Available every day.

Check website for times.

Fees: \$5 Adults/\$4 University of Michigan Faculty

and Staff/\$3 Students, Youth & Seniors,

\$2 Noon Skate Available

Hockey: Summer league and adult clinics available. What Makes it Unique: You're skating where some college hockey greats have skated. That's like playing

flag football in the Big House.

///Arctic Colliseum

Location: 501 Coliseum Drive, Chelsea, MI 48118

Phone: (734) 433-4444

Website: http://www.arcticcoliseum.net

Indoor/Outdoor: Indoor

Public Skating: Available every day.

Check website for times.

Fees: Call for info.

Hockey: Drop-In, leagues, and

beginner classes available

What Makes it Unique: On the second floor, you'll

find Arctic Breakaway Restaurant and Bar. Sounds

like a romantic ice skating date to me.

///Arctic Edge Ide Arena

Location: 46615 Michigan Avenue, Canton, MI 48188

Phone: (734) 487-7777

Website: http://www.arcticarenas.com

Indoor/Outdoor: Indoor

Public Skating: Available frequently. Schedule varies.

Check website for times.

Fees: \$5 for Adults/\$3 for Youth & Seniors

Hockey: Drop-in, leagues, and classes available.

What's Cool About It: Arctic Edge does offer a beginner girls hockey league ... But only for ladies

age 4-12. Bummer.

# taste of the month

DIY STIR FRY AT NEWLY
OPENED "FLAT TOP GRILL"
IN ANN ARBOR

BY RYAN M. PLACE >>>>>>>>

General Manager Marc Miller, Manager Matt Thacker and roughly 45 employees are holding down the newly opened Flat Top Grill for your enjoyment. Located on Washtenaw, west of Huron Parkway in the Huron Village shopping complex, Flat Top offers fresh ingredients, homemade sauces, great service and a wonderful atmosphere that combines to create an immensely enjoyable experience.

Miller, 29, recently imported from Chicago, ran a Flat Top Grill in Evanston, III. and one in downtown Chicago and is extremely well versed in handling the challenges of a popular restaurant.

"Flat Top offers great products at a great value, and we love our customers. Our Washtenaw location is strategically placed between the two great campuses of EMU and U of M. Flat Top's incredibly fresh Asian-style cooking and generous student discounts do very well in college towns, and we want to offer the best that we can," says Miller.

Here's the Flat Top Grill experience: Once your host seats you, at your table you will find a bowl caddy (a metal holder with one small bowl for meat and one large bowl for everything else). Your server explains what to do (my server, Berto, was very courteous, knowledgeable and friendly): take the little wood paddle with your table's number on it, write your name on the back with the pencil provided and put it in the caddy, along with a white stick if you have any dietary restrictions or allergies. Take your caddy over to the buffet style layout and stand in line at the stir fry station, where you will choose from rice or noodles, then add fresh vegetables. Ladle with as many different types of sauce as you want, add colored sticks and more. I highly recommend adding Roti Prata, an insanely delicious small round pancake-sized piece of



bread, and adding shrimp to the bowl for \$3. Drop your creation off at the counter, where cooks stir fry it up on a big steel flat top grill, and the server will bring it back to your table in five minutes.

At Flat Top Grill, it's all about options. You can create unique dishes from a great variety of ingredients and enjoy the ability to make a completely different meal each time. You can even turn your stir-fry into soup if you want to. If you're feeling especially hungry, order an appetizer for \$5, such as the succulent Thai Sticky Wings, big chicken wings in Thai sweet chili sauce. If it's after 5pm, you can include the ridiculously delicious dinner-only Filipino sausage or whitefish as well. For desert, try the mind meltingly tasty Triple Chocolate Storm for \$6, a giant brownie covered with a scoop of French vanilla ice cream, chocolate pieces, whipped cream and chocolate shavings. Flat Top Grill also serves wine, cocktails, margaritas, mojitos, Asian and domestic beers and over ten choice wines.

Flat Top Grill is fast, convenient and delicious, featuring quality ingredients, great service and affordable prices. Lunch is one bowl for \$9 or unlimited for \$10. Dinner is one bowl for \$13 or unlimited for \$15. Kids' meals (ages 5-10) are \$6, and children 4 and under eat for free. Another of the restaurant's cool offerings is "Create Your Own Breakfast" for \$10 on Saturdays and Sundays between 8 a.m. and 11 a.m., where you can create an omelet, French

toast, pancakes or scrambled eggs and enjoy some breakfast snacks while you're waiting.

"Flat Top started in suburban Chicago in 1995 and this is our 15th corporate location," says Miller. "We just opened on November 15th, 2010, and we have many different stir fry creations to choose from, a slew of different sauces, excellent student discounts and a good, clean atmosphere, so come out and see us!"



PHOTO: RYAN M. PLACE

# DEPOT TOWN'S HOME FOR MUSIC, MADNESS AND MUSTACHES BY ADRIENNE ZIEGLER >>>>>>>>

Depot Town, I feel, has needed a music venue for a long time. It's too great of an area not to capitalize on everything.

A new hotspot opened up on Cross Street in December, bringing with it a fresh crowd set to revitalize Depot Town's late-night entertainment scene.

Woodruff's, a bar and music venue, debuted Dec. 1 in the building previously home to Celebrations Banquets and Catering, and, before that, Cady's Grill & Bar.

Woodruff's is full of warm touches, featuring high ceilings, an inviting fireplace and a large stage in the back corner to accommodate Ypsilanti's blooming music scene. The space is owned by Bill and Sandee French, also the owners of the Aubree's Pizzeria restaurant chain, and leased to Hasan Mihyar.

The winding road to Woodruff's began with manager Andy Garris at the Elbow Room. For three and a half years, he grew the following at the tiny dive bar, and nurtured that following with a unique bartending style that often included outrageous stunts peppered with a few strip teases and an occasional dangling from the rafters.

In June, Garris left the Elbow Room amid some light controversy to manage Savoy, a new 700-person music venue, formerly the home of Club Divine on Washington Avenue.

"We had an awesome canvas, you know, a blank canvas that was like, 'Wow. Let's go do something that everyone said can't be done," Garris said of

But his time at Savoy was short-lived. When DTE first shut off the lights to the venue during the last week of October, it became clear that Garris needed a new gig, one where he could be sure there would be stability - and electricity - on a daily basis.

"I'm not rich. I have to work. If I'm not pouring drinks, I have no money coming in," Garris said.

As friends and business partners, Garris and Mihyar started laying the groundwork for Woodruff's in Depot Town, and they set the opening for January. They named the venue for the village Woodruff's Grove, which predated Ypsilanti on the banks of the Huron River. And then DTE shut off the power at Savov again. This time, it didn't come back on.

"When the power went out again the day before Thanksgiving, it was very obvious that things were changing," Garris said.

Local news outlets reported that DTE had shut off the electricity due to an outstanding \$30,000 energy bill for Savoy and Pub 13, which owner Dave Curtis said was due to a faulty meter that hadn't charged the businesses enough over several years.

With Woodruff's already in the works, Garris left Savoy, and he and Mihyar moved up the opening day to Dec. 1, less than a week later.

Help poured in from friends willing to build the website, a social media following, and a stage.

"Hasan signed on Monday, we built the stage on Tuesday, and opened on Wednesday," Garris said.

Since the opening, the bar has run full throttle leading up to the four-day New Year's event, Mittenfest V, a 60-act music festival that generates money for 826 Michigan, a non-profit literacy and reading organization.

In just the first month, Woodruff's hosted bands like Graham Parsons and the Go Rounds, Gun Lake, Ben Daniels Band, Laith Al Saadi, Jehovah's Witness Protection Program, Swimsuit and more, with several special events like the DIYpsi Handmade Holiday Fair.

"Savoy was great, and I would have loved to grow into that space, but it was hard to make Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday feel like home to people," Garris said. "Depot Town, I feel, has needed a music venue for a long time. It's too great of an area not to capitalize on everything."

Garris said he's looking forward to having all kinds of music at the venue in the future, including a Sunday jazz night, an open mic every Wednesday from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. hosted by local folk artist Dave Boutette, karaoke Thursdays, and Laith Al Saadi playing every Monday night.

"I can listen to any kind of music as long as everybody is digging it," he said. "I don't think there's a genre that we won't touch."

Garris also plans to open a food window in the venue, where revelers and concert goers can grab a unique late-night snack.

But what's evident in speaking to Garris is how proud he is to have created something that feels like a home for so many people – that brings people to Depot Town and helps to grow the ambiance of community budding on Cross Street.

"It's still surreal to me - looking out the windows at Cross Street," he said. "It's just home again."



I'VE ALWAYS BEEN MORE OF A SONG-WRITER, AND I DIDN'T FEEL LIKE I WAS REALLY ABLE TO GET THAT KIND OF SOUND OUT WITH THE BAND."

FORMER MY DEAR DISCO GUITARIST WILL TAKE THE STAGE AT THE ANN ARBOR FOLK FESTIVAL BY AMANDA SLATER >>>>>>

"I love music. I would like to play it for my whole life. That's my story, and I'm sticking to it," says Theo Katzman, singer/songwriter and former My Dear Disco guitarist.

Katzman comes from a long line of musicians. His father, Lee Katzman, was formerly a studio trumpet player in Los Angeles and a member of the Tonight Show band. And his mother, although not a professional musician, sings. His grandfather played principal flute in the Detroit symphony, and his grandmother was a concert pianist.

Despite his musical roots, Katzman says, "I wasn't one of those kids who grew up at age two playing guitar. I didn't start until later, like most kids."

However, he says that his upbringing "instilled a love for [music] that I can't quite seem to get away from."

Katzman attended the University of Michigan, where he majored in jazz and contemplative studies. He says that he pursued a degree in music with the primary hope that he would meet some "great musician friends"—which he did, in the form of Tyler Duncan and Christian Carpenter—co-founding members of the band My Dear Disco.

My Dear Disco eventually reached seven members, solidified the band's signature sound and began gaining momentum, eventually performing alongside bands such as the Dave Matthews Band and Wilco at 10,000 Lakes Festival. However, over time, Katzman began to consider breaking off from the band to pursue a solo

career.

"I had a bit of a different aesthetic direction. I love electronic music, and I love dance music, but I've always been more of a songwriter, and I didn't feel like I was really able to get that kind of sound out with the band," he says. "Eventually I decided that I needed to take a leap."

Katzman departed from My Dear Disco and headed into somewhat uncharted territory, pursing a solo project that he has been nurturing for the past year.

"I've been doing gigs here and there and made a few trips to the east coast. I went to Wisconsin. I've visited the Midwest and Chicago. Rockwood Music Hall in New York was awesome," he says—although he says that he still considers the Ark in Ann Arbor to be one of his favorite venues.

"I think we take it for granted because it's a local venue, but it's an awesome place," he says.

Thus, it's no surprise that Katzman is

looking forward to performing at the Ann Arbor Folk Festival.

"I'm totally excited, to say the least," he says. Katzman has yet to record a full length solo album (he currently has a four song EP featuring solo acoustic guitar and vocals that can be purchased at shows), but says that he hopes to release such an album in the summer or fall of 2011. However, the songs that are featured on

his EP are both peppy and catchy, with a

positive vibe.

"I'm a percussive guitar player, which gives [my music] an upbeat feeling. I'm also a pretty happy person, despite attempts at being less that way in order to be more of an artist or something," he says.

Katzman's positive vibes seem to spill over into his everyday life as well. He teaches drums, guitar and bass at the Ann Arbor Music Center, where he says that he enjoys being around the youth.

"I like to be around and work with kids

in music. That's a joy for me. I have a four year old drum student who is really very good," he says.

He thinks that giving back, particularly when it comes to education, is very important and directly affects virtually every major issue.

"I had some really good teachers, and I know it made all the difference. [...] I aspire to inspire in that way," he says. "I want people to know that they have an outlet in music. I think it's definitely pointed me in the right direction several times in my life when I could have probably done other stuff that would have been not so cool. I think [music] can change your life for the better. And the more smiles we have out here, the better."

Katzman lives in Ann Arbor, which he says he enjoys.

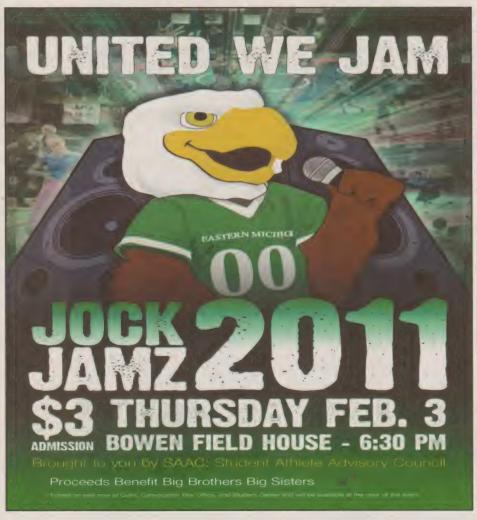
"I think Michigan, and, in particular, Ann Arbor, is a really friendly, welcoming artistic community of people who are optimistic and participatory," he says. "I feel that the arts in Ann Arbor are inclusive, so it's a great place for people to exist creatively and find what they want to do and pursue."

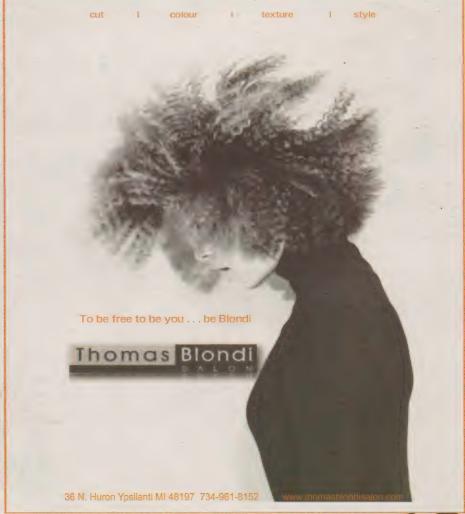
FEATURES

And he says that, other than the Ann Arbor Music Center, his favorite area hangout is Washtenaw Dairy.

"They have the best doughnuts in the world. I'm talking real, fried cake doughnuts that are deep fried, but not overdone—just perfect, melt in your mouth," he says. "I know that they are the best doughnuts. Few things have as much certainty for me."

Katzman will be playing at the Ann Arbor Folk Festival on Friday, January 28, where he says he is going to "put it all out there" during his performance. He will also be playing his first headlining show at the Ark on March 11. For more information, or to listen to some of his songs for free, visit www.theokatzman.com.





# AROUND YOU ]

# AROUND YOU

MISPYMAG.COM/EVENTS ian/feb 2011 events

#### CAMPUS//

++1/17

#### EMU:

Guest Speaker: Tricia Rose, 10 a.m., Student Center Auditorium

#### U of M:

MLK Day Celebration: The Dream - A World of Brotherhood, 2 p.m., Power Center



### ++1/19

#### EMU:

Night Blooming, 7 p.m., Quirk Theater (runs through Jan.23)

#### ++1/20

#### EMU:

Times Talks with Dr. Hammill: Media Literacy, 5 p.m. Film: Freakonomics, 7 p.m., Student Center Auditorium Sky Lounge, 9 p.m., Student Center Room 300

Campus Wide Picnic, 11:30 a.m., Student Center Ballroom

#### ++1/21

Film: Jackass 3, 8 p.m. & 10:30p.m., Student Center Auditorium

#### ++1/26

#### U of M:

University Symphony Orchestra, 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium Open Mic Night, 8:30 p.m., Michigan League- Underground

#### ++1/27

#### EMU:

Laugh Lounge, 9p.m., Student Center Room 30

#### U of M:

Poetry Slam, 8:30p.m., Michigan Union

#### ++1/28

#### EMU:

Film: Paranormal Activity 2, 8p.m. & 10:30 p.m., Student Center Auditorium

#### U of M:

Martin Luther King Concert: Monica Blaire, 7 p.m.

#### U of M:

- The Cleveland

Orchestra, 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium

#### ++7/7

#### EMII:

The Obama Presidency: A Critical Assessment, 6 p.m., Student Center Ballroom A

#### U of M:

Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium

#### EMU:

Lyric Lounge: Poetry Open Mic, 7 p.m., Student Center Room 300 Jock Jams, 6:30p.m., Bowen Field House

#### ++2/4

#### EMU:

Film: It's Kind of a Funny Story, 8p.m. & 10:30p.m., Student Center Auditorium Symphony Orchestra, 8 p.m., Pease Auditorium

# Keir Emma and Zach

Hip Hop Summit, 7 p.m. Symphony Band, 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium Student String Ouartet Recital. 8 p.m., Moore Building

HAVE AN EVENT?

SUBMIT IT ONLINE.

#### EMU:

Indie Lounge, 9 p.m., Student Center Room 300

#### U of M:

Poetry Slam, 8:30 p.m., Michigan Union

#### ++2/

#### EMU:

Film: For Colored Girls, 8 p.m., Student Center Ballroom

#### ++2/18

#### U of M:

Mic Night, 8:30p.m., Michigan League-Underground

#### MUSIC//

#### ++1/16

#### Beausoleil,

7:30 p.m., The Ark, Ann Arbor Dan Bennett Quartet,

8 p.m., Woodruff's, Ypsilanti

#### Todd Osborn.

11 p.m., Woodruff's, Ypsilanti

#### ++1/17

Clay Cook vs. Levi Lowrey,

8 p.m.,

The Ark, Ann Arbor

#### Laith Al-Saadi,

10 p.m., Woodruff's, Ypsilanti

#### ++1/18

#### B\*\*CH,

8 p.m., The Ark, Ann Arbor

#### ++1/19

#### Dryvel,

9:30 p.m. Blind Pig, Ann Arbor

#### ++1/20

#### Rachael Davis, Jake Armerding,

8 p.m., The Ark, Ann Arbor

#### Jehovah's Witness Protection Program,

9:30 p.m., Blind Pig, Ann Arbor

#### ++1/21

#### Finger Eleven,



7 p.m., Saint Andrews Hall, Detroit Robert

Plant &

The Band of Joy, 8 p.m.,

Hill Auditorium,
Ann Arbor

The Ragbirds,

8 p.m., The Ark, Ann Arbor

Counter Cosby,

9:30 p.m., Blind Pig, Ann Arbor

Brandon Calhoon,

10 p.m., Woodruff's, Ypsilanti

#### ++1/22

Leon Redbone,

8 p.m., The Ark, Ann Arbor

Steppin' In It,

9 p.m., Blind Pig, Ann Arbor

Rain: a Tribute to the Beatles,

8 p.m.,
Fox Theatre,
Detroit

++1/23

Nellie McKay, The Ark, Ann Arbor

++1/24

Ruthie Foster & Eric Bibb,

8 p.m., The Ark, Ann Arbor

++1/25

Linkin Park,

7 p.m.,
Joe Louis Arena,
Detroit

Greg McIntosh,

10 p.m., Woodruff's, Ypsilanti ++1/26

Olafur Arnalds,

7 p.m., Saint Andrews Hall, Detroit

Matthew Dear Live Band,

9 p.m., Blind Pig, Ann Arbor

City Center,

10 p.m., Woodruff's, Ypsilanti

++1/27

Plug,

9:30 p.m., Blind Pig, Ann Arbor

The Outliers,

8 p.m.,
Woodruff's,
Ypsilanti

++1/28

Ann Arbor Folk Festival,

6:30 p.m., Hill Auditorium, Ann Arbor

Macy Gray,

8 p.m.,
Sound Board at
Motor City Casino
Hotel, Detroit

Nathan K,

10 p.m., Woodruff's, Ypsilanti

++1/29

Ann Arbor Folk Festival,

6:30 p.m., Hill Auditorium, Ann Arbor

The Sights,

9:30 p.m., Blind Pig, Ann Arbor ++1/30

Folk the Police,

8 p.m., Blind Pig, Ann Arbor

++1/31

An Acoustic Evening with Lyle Lovett and John Hiatt,

7:30 p.m.,
The Michigan Theater,
Ann Arbor

++2/1

Miranda Cosgrove,

7 p.m.,
The Fillmore,
Detroit

Tapes N Tapes,

8 p.m., Blind Pig, Ann Arbor

++2/2

Frank Vignola,

8 p.m., The Ark, Ann Arbor

Chris Webby,

8 p.m., Blind Pig, Ann Arbor

++2/3

Ann Doyle,

8 p.m., The Ark, Ann Arbor

My Dear Disco,

8 p.m., Magic Stick, Detroit

++2/4

Shelby Lynne,

7 p.m.,
The Crofoot
Ballroom, Pontiac

Hoots and Hellmouth,

8 p.m., The Ark, Ann Arbor

Twista,

8p.m, Harpos, Detroit

++2/5

Foxy Shazam,

6 p.m., The Crofoot Ballroom, Pontiac

Umphrey's McGee,

6:30 p.m.,
The Fillmore,
Detroit

Avenged Sevenfold,

7 p.m., The Palace of Auburn Hills

Yiddishe Cup Klezmer,

8 p.m., The Ark, Ann Arbor

Bob Marley Birthday Bash,

8 p.m., Blind Pig, Ann Arbor

++2/7

Caravan of Thieves,

8 p.m., The Ark, Ann Arbor

++2/8

Kurt Elling,

8 p.m., The Ark, Ann Arbor

++2/9

The Wailers,

8 p.m., The Ark, Ann Arbor

++2/10

Battlefield Band,

8 p.m., The Ark, Ann Arbor

Ultraviolet Hippopotamus,

> 9:30 p.m., Blind Pig, Ann Arbor

++2/11

Brian McKnight,

8 p.m.,
Sound Board at
MotorCity Casino
Hotel, Detroit

Drumline Live,

8 p.m., Music Hall Center, Detroit

The Kruger Brothers,

8 p.m.,

The Ark, Ann Arbor

The Macpodz,

9:30 p.m., Blind Pig, Ann Arbor

++2/12

Ozzy Osbourne,

7:30 p.m.,
The Palace
of Auburn Hills

D. L. Hughley,

8 p.m.,
Music Hall Center,
Detroit

Mustard's Retreat,

8 p.m., The Ark, Ann Arbor

Secret Twins,

10 p.m., Woodruff's, Ypsilanti

++2/13

My Folky Valentine,

7:30 p.m.,
The Ark, Ann Arbor

++2/14

Keiko Matsui,

8 p.m.,
Andiamo Celebrity
Showroom, Warren

++2/16

Hellogoodbye,

6:30 p.m.,
Eagle Theater,
Pontiac

Buckwheat Zydeco,

8 p.m., The Ark, Ann Arbor



FEBRUARY 2010 iS

### ARTS//

**EXHIBITIONS:** 

++1/17

Mai-Thu Perret:
An Ideal for Living,

U of M Museum of Art (runs through 03/13)

Four Seasons

Riverside Arts Gallery (runs through 1/29)

Figurative Works

University Art Gallery Eastern Michigan (runs through 2/12)

Annual Student Show

Ford Gallery Eastern Michigan (runs through 2/12)

#### FILM//

Live Events/ Theater:

++1/17

Deadly Deception,

1 p.m.,
The Michigan Theater
Bilal's Stand,

5 p.m., The Michigan Theater

The King's Speech (shown through 01/20) The Michigan Theater

Casino Jack

(shown through 01/22) The Michigan Theater

++1/22

Mozart Birthday Bash,

8 p.m., Michigan Theater

Enter the Void, 12:00am, The State Theater

++1/23

Not Just For Kids presents: Rob The Drummer,

1:30 p.m., Michigan Theater Sundance Shorts 2010,

The Michigan Theater (runs through 1/26)

++1/29

Dandia Dhamaka 2011,

6:30 p.m.,

Michigan Theater

Our School's E.T.,

2 p.m.,
The Michigan Theater

++1/30

FELA!,

2 p.m., Michigan Theater

++1/31

Lyle Lovett & John Hiatt,

7:30 p.m., Michigan Theater

7+2/6

Not Just For Kids presents: Junie B. Jones,

1:30 p.m., « Michigan Theater

++2/8

The Kurt Elling Quartet,

8 p.m.,
Michigan Theater

++2/12

The Way I See It,

8 p.m.,
The Michigan Theater

++2/19
Lewis Black,



#### COMMUNITY//



Ford Lake
Frozen Leap,
Lakeshore
Apartments

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ASSOCIATION

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#### SPORTS//



ENTER TO WIN AN
IPAD AT EVERY MAC
EMU HOME GAME THE
REST OF THE SEASON!

++1/19

Men's Basketball vs Ball State

WCC Appreciation Day, \$.50 Popocorn 7 p.m. Convocation Center

++1/23

Men's Basketball vs CMU

Boy Scout Day, Eagle Discount Card Day, Post Game Autographs 2 p.m. Convocation Center

++1/26

Women's Basketball vs Ohio

Most Valuable Professor, Faculty Appreciation (3 for \$3), \$.50 Popcorn 7 p.m. Convocation Center

++2/2

Men's Basketball vs Akron

Most Valuable Professor, Faculty Appreciation (3 for \$3), \$.50 Popcorn 7 p.m. Convocation Center ++2/5

Women's Basketball vs Buffalo

Swoop-a-Palooza (Swoop's Birthday), Project Perfect, Post Game Autographs Girl Scout Day, V-Day Recognition 2 p.m. Convocation Center

Men's Basketball vs Miami

Swoop-a-Palooza (Swoop's Birthday), Project Perfect, Post Game Autographs 4:30 p.m. Convocation Center

++2/12

Women's Basketball vs BG

Go Red (AHA), Postgame Autographs, Staff Appreciation (3 for \$3) 2 p.m. Convocation Center

Men's Basketball vs Buffalo

Go Red (AHA), Postgame
Autographs, I Love My
OneCard Day

4:30 p.m. Convocation Center

++2/19

Women's Basketball vs NIU

Hall of Fame Day, Pink Zone, Post Game Autographs 2 p.m. Convocation Center

Men's Basketball (Bracket Buster)

Hall of Fame Day, Pink Zone, Post Game Autographs, Faith and Family Day 4:30 p.m. Convocation Center

++2/27

Men's Basketball vs WMU

Earl Boykins Day,
Alumni Appreciation
(3 for \$3),
Post Game Autographs
2 p.m Convocation Center

# kick some app!





VERIZON REVIEW, EVERNOTE

5/5 TOWERS

**REVIEW BY TIM ADKINS >>>>** 

It's no secret, I like free stuff. And what I like even more than free stuff is free stuff that makes my life easier. Evernote is both, and I more than like it—I love it. I'm always on the go and having to remember things ...lots of things. Evernote allows me to easily keep track of everything, everywhere.

When I take a note in a meeting using Evernote, it automatically syncs with my computer, and the note is now there. When I take a note on my computer, it automatically syncs to my iPhone. No emailing, no waiting for things to load, no having to lug my computer or messy, unorganized notebooks around. All I need is Evernote. Take a picture or voice note

and it syncs the same way!

Evernote also allows you to create separate notebooks for different projects to stay organized and works with a ton of apps that are Evernote friendly. While Evernote is free, there are also Premium and Sponsored accounts that are available for a monthly fee.

### When I take a note in a meeting using >>>>Why this kicks app:

I recently had a meeting in Ann Arbor. Before I left my office, I dropped a 24 page pdf into Evernote. When I got to my meeting, I was able to open, view and go through the entire pdf, collaborating with someone else all from my phone. It was awesome.



3/5 TOWERS

**REVIEW BY TIM ADKINS >>>** 

# verizon samsung galaxy tab

Let me begin by stating, this is not an iPad killer. To be honest, I don't even know if it can be considered a competitor. It's a different kind of monster that has its advantages and disadvantages, but I don't think we're comparing apples with apples--especially at the price point. With no data plan, Best Buy has the Galaxy Tab listed at \$549 as of 1.11.11 and the iPad starting at \$499.

#### SURFING THE WEB

As usual, viewing websites on Verizon's network was fast and pain free. However, one thing I didn't like was the resolution of the webpages. The Galaxy Tab is set to view mobile websites (which is an option that can be turned off) by default. Mobile websites are built for around a four inch screen—viewing them on the seven inch TFT display makes the web pages fuzzy and not crystal clear. Picky, I know, but it is kind of annoying.

#### GAMING

Here's where I think the Galaxy Tab really has the upper hand. Because the Galaxy Tab is more of a handheld, it's great for playing games, and they look amazing—and I'm not talking about Princess Toadstool looking good from your old Game Boy. These graphics and this user interface will keep you distracted for hours and hours.

#### VIDEO

The Galaxy Tab boasts dual cameras (5 megapixel on the back camera and 1.3 megapixel on the front), which makes both watching and taking videos quite an experience. It's like using a digital camera, only the viewfinder is a whopping seven inches wide! Plus, when watching videos from You-Tube or Facebook, the quality is crystal clear and the videos look great.

#### READING AND SUCH

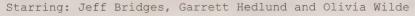
As usual, the Galaxy Tab runs Android 2.2, which is the same OS as the majority of Android phones. It comes preloaded with the Kindle eReader app for reading books, but that's about it—making my argument that this isn't an iPad competitor. There really aren't any other major reading features on the Galaxy Tab that you couldn't get on your Android phone, while the iPad has a separate app store for magazines, books, etc. for a heightened user experience (this isn't available yet for the Galaxy Tab). My advice would be to wait to purchase the next generation.



# REVIEW

# +++rate it+++







FILM: TRON: Legacy

DIRECTOR: Joseph Kosinski REVIEW BY: JOSEPH STROMSKI II

Tron: Legacy features wowing effects and score, but leaves unanswered questions.

I tried to watch TRON once. I only made it about 13 minutes in before shutting it off because it was so terrible. Still, that didn't prevent me from get as giddy as a nine-year-old girl who just received a pony for her birthday when I found out that TRON: Legacy was coming to the big screen. And it was rightfully so, as TRON: Legacy was one of the most entertaining films I've seen this past year.

Since there are several recap sequences bridging the 28 year gap between the two films, you don't have to worry about missing out if you haven't seen the original. The story starts off with Kevin Flynn (Jeff Bridges), the user responsible for creating the digital world in which the film takes place, explaining his technological discoveries and experiments to his son, Sam Flynn, in the form of a bedtime story. However, that very night, Kevin mysteriously disappears. The film quickly transitions to present day and introduces grownup Sam Flynn-a fast living rebel with a chip on his shoulder who accidentally stumbles into The Grid-the world his father created, where he finds himself in a struggle between life and death, man and machine.

TRON: Legacy has everything I like in movie: plenty of action, fast motorcycles, violence, bright lights, humor, a killer score and Olivia Wilde in really, really tight pants. Keeping that in mind, it's hard to say what I liked best about this movie, but, after much deliberation, TRON: Legacy would not have been what it was without Daft Punk, who are responsible for the score that carries the plot along just as much, if not more, than the dialogue does (the duo even make a cameo appearance in the film).

Other than the score (and Olivia Wilde, of course), my favorite aspect of the film was Jeff Bridges' performance as Kevin Flynn who, to help cope with his situation in the film, has entered a state of Zen, much like that of The Dude-and I love The Dude.

The only thing I didn't care for in TRON: Legacy was the ending. I won't spoil anything for you, but it leaves some major questions unanswered, which was just enough to make me leave the theater

If you enjoyed TRON: Legacy, check out: The Big Lebowski and The Fifth Element.



Starring: Natalie Portman, Mila Kunis, and Vincent Cassel



FILM: Black Swan

DIRECTOR: Darren Aronofsky REVIEW BY: PAUL KITTI

Dark and beautiful — as its title suggests — Black Swan portrays the ugly side of perfection.

Leave it to the brilliant mind of Darren Aronofsky to equate ballet with body torture. He demonstrated the devastating physical effects of substance abuse in the memorable Requiem for a Dream (2000) as well as the bodily damage associated with wrestling in The Wrestler (2008). But, with Black Swan, Aronofsky seeks to reveal even more shock and intensity through the medium of ballet. The result is a powerful and unique gem that alternates between gorgeous and grotesque, all the while remaining nothing short of mesmerizing.

Natalie Portman seizes her role as a dedicated ballerina named Nina who gets to live her dream of playing the Swan in a modernized production of Swan Lake. The Swan is really two characters in one role: the White Swan and the Black Swan. Nina's White Swan is flawless, but she struggles to express the dark and seductive qualities of the Black Swan. Her obsession with perfection leads to her explore the darker side of herself, wherein she descends deeper than she could have imagined.

Aronofsky's direction is technically perfect and remarkably original, as he pulls an incredible amount of tension and beauty from moments that would likely come across as mundane in the hands of any other director. But this was to be expected from one of the greatest directors working today. The only surprise here is Natalie Portman's ability to assume such a polarizing role and make it the best of her career. She gravitates from fragile and graceful to sinister and seductive without ever suspending believability, and it is a blast to watch.

Similar to its lead character, Black Swan has multiple faces. It begins as a drama that slowly morphs into a psychological thriller before its explosive final half hour of graphic-yet-tasteful horror. In the end, its best classified as a phenomenal film.



4/5 TOWERS

FILM: 127 Hours

DIRECTOR: Danny Boyle REVIEW BY: JOSEPH STROMSKI II

127 Hours both inspires and disturbs, while James Franco delivers his best performance yet.

Based on Aron Ralston's autobiography Between a Rock and a Hard Place, 127 Hours starts off with Ralston setting off on a solo canyoneering trip in Utah, without telling anyone where he's going. And, just before reaching his destination, Ralston becomes trapped in Blue John Canyon when his arm is crushed between a

fallen rock and a canyon wall.

Over the course of the next five days, Ralston survives by sipping on just a few hundred milliliters of water and by drinking his own urine, as he fervently chips away at the rock in order to free his arm—all while hallucinating and examining his own life.

After having studied footage captured by Ralston during his time trapped in the canyon, James Franco delivers the performance of his career by capturing the full attention of the audience from the very beginning of the film, as he's racing down pitch black roads in his pickup truck, to the gritty end, when he finally frees himself from his prison.

127 Hours, while not the best movie I've ever seen, comes damn close. What it is, however, is a movie that is going to stick with you for days after you see it.

Whether or not you fancy yourself to be an outdoorsman, I highly encourage everybody to see this film, as it truly is inspirational. However, I will warn you: there are some pretty graphic parts that may cause you to vomit into your bag of overpriced movie theater popcorn.

If you enjoyed 127 Hours, check out: Into the Wild and Touching the Void.



Starring: James Franco

# UNITED WE HOOP

# FREE All Campus Picnic

Thursday, January 20 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Student Center Ballroom

- Enjoy FREE food
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- Enter to WIN prizes
- Play games



emueagles.com



You Tube



february 2011

## emYOU!

A LOOK AT EMU'S WINTER SPORTS

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S HOOPS READY FOR THE MAC

# SPOTLIGHT

ELYSSA RAUTICLA

catch up with carl thomas former nba player returns home to emu

PRO BOWL TIME FOR FORMER EAGLES enter. to rein

MAIGAN

an iPad at every home MAC game

EMYOU!]

FROM OLYMPIC-LEVEL FIGURE SKATING TO STRAIGHT A'S AT EMU, RAUTIOLA DOES IT ALL

BY RYAN M. PLACE >>>>



# FAST

YEAR: Sophomore

MAJOR: Biochemistry and Toxicology

**DESCRIBE YOURSELF IN** 

THREE WORDS: Curious, Tidy, Athletic

FAVORITE BOOK: Pride and Prejudice

FAVORITE MOVIE: Ever After

IF YOU COULD HAVE ANY

SUPERPOWER, WHAT WOULD IT BE:

Teleportation

PHOTO: BRUNO POSTIGO

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Brilliance, talent and beauty are a deadly combination, and EMU sophomore Elyssa Rautiola has a flowing overabundance of each. To encapsulate the remarkable qualities of such a multi-dimensional woman is to commit the injustice of omission. She has figure skated at the Olympic level and lived in Brazil. She got a full ride to EMU and is a dancer, actress and a figure skating coach.

"I've been a figure skater for 14 years. I passed the USFS senior gold medal test and now skate at the Olympic level. I'm also a basic skills instructor for kids and love helping children," she says, regarding her figure skating career. Describing her experience living in Brazil, Rautiola says that the opportunity came about through her father's job. (Her father is an engineer for Ford and was offered a job at the company's Camacari plant.) "Brazil was very welcoming," she says. "I loved walking the sugar white sand beaches, and, on our property, we had spider monkeys instead of squirrels. We drank fresh mango juice from our yard every morning, and I eventually became fluent in Brazilian Portuguese."

Rautiola's record of academic achievement is daunting. On the recommendation of her English teacher, Elyssa skipped eighth grade and went directly from 7th to 9th grade at PCEP, which she attended from 2006-2009, achieving a 4.0 GPA every semester. She's been a straight-A student her entire life and surfed into the EMU Honors Program by winning a full ride as well as room and board through EMU's Presidential scholarship. Being a full-time EMU student and an accelerated upperclassman, her workload pushes the limits of human endurance.

"I have to keep a 3.5 GPA and do honors requirements like 40 hours community service, learning beyond the classroom, etc. Studying consumes the bulk of my time. I take the maximum amount of credits each semester, and my full course load necessitates at least five hours a day devoted to homework," she says.

Despite the lack of free time, Rautiola loves attending EMU. "EMU is a vibrant, interactive community—very close knit. I love being able to talk face to face with my professors," she says.

Not many 18-year-olds are as career oriented yet as genuinely thoughtful and compassionate as Rautiola. Her positive attitude and seemingly limitless energies make her a strangely awe-inspiring combination of fun loving and outgoing coupled with incredible focus and fierce determination, which shines through in her campus commitments. (That's right—she's also involved on campus as the Downing Hall Leadership Advisory Board's Communications Coordinator.)

"Like a stenographer, I transcribe everything that's said at meetings, post flyers and posters around campus and talk with people about our mission. This past semester I represented Downing for the Residence Hall Association at the Annual President's Assembly meeting, where residence hall presidents collaborate."

However, Rautiola is not all work and no play. In



"For Halloween, my great friend and fellow honor student, Erika Van Goethem, and I dressed up as the spooky Grady Twins from The Shining and worked at a haunted house, The Dead Gallery, at Quirk to help raise money for the EMU Players," she says. "It was a blast!"

It's hard to keep up with what Rautiola is doing next. She says that, on her horizon for the winter, she will be figure skating, snowboarding and volunteering in the community.

Of course, Rautiola is also planning ahead for even farther in the future.

"I'm looking forward to doing some lab research at EMU this summer," she says, adding, "I've come to really value the importance of long-range planning, thus, I fully intend on getting my masters and becoming a research scientist, while continuing to teach figure skating on the side. I love working with children too much to give it up!"

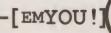


[EMYOU!]-

# PROFESSOR BY RYAN M. PLACE >>>>

PRESERVING THE PAST, EDUCATING FOR THE FUTURE







# ALDRIDGE:

**DEPARTMENT:** Communication & Theatre Arts **COURSES TAUGHT:** Introduction to Film

Appreciation, Survey of American Cinema, Studies in
Film, American Film Genres, Film Theory and Criticism,
Visual Arts in the 10<sup>th</sup> Century, Film and Italian Culture **DEGREES:** B.A. in English (University of North Carolina),
M.A. in English (University of North Carolina), Ph.D. in
Radio-Television-Film (University of Michigan)

**PUBLISHED WORK:** two textbooks and over forty published articles and presentations

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:** Founding officer and past president of the Michigan Theater Foundation, staff organist at the Michigan Theater

**FAVORITE FILMS:** Aldridge's favorite films are the Bicycle Thieves (1948), The 400 Blows (1959) and The King's Speech (2010).

"Film Studies is very interesting. I've never gotten bored with it, and I've always thoroughly enjoyed it," says Dr. Henry Aldridge, professor of electronic media and film studies at Eastern Michigan University.

Perhaps one of the most highly regarded professors at the university, Aldridge has been teaching at EMU for almost 40 years and is responsible for carving out the school's niche for film studies. In fact, he was the main architect responsible for the creation of EMU's Electronic Media major and minor and was also responsible for adding all of the film studies courses that the university currently offers.

"I started the Film Studies and Electronic Media program at EMU in 1972 because my department head asked me to," he says. "I drafted a proposal for Film Studies and Film Appreciation courses. It has since kept growing [and] now include[s] eight courses."

Aldridge's love of films began when he was quite young. He has early childhood memories of going to the movies once a week with his grandmother, who raised him. This love followed him into adolescence,

during which he began earning money working as a grocery delivery boy—which allowed his theater visits to increase to two or three times a week.

Upon graduation from McCallie, a private all-male military prep school in Chattanooga, Aldridge earned a prestigious Morehead scholarship to UNC Chapel Hill. He said that his grandmother, a fourth grade teacher, helped him cover the rest of his tuition by selling encyclopedias in the summer. He earned his B.A. and M.A. at Chapel Hill, then moved to Michigan in 1970 to attend the University of Michigan, where he earned his doctorate in 1973. It was during this time that he was introduced to two of his other passions—the pipe organ and the Michigan Theater.

"In college, I discovered theater organs, and, from 1970 through 1972, myself and six others restored the 1927 Barton theater pipe organ at the Michigan Theater. I've been a staff organist [at the Michigan Theater] ever since," he says.

It was in June of 1978 that Aldridge heard that the Michigan Theater was going to be closing. Upon hearing the news, he decided to dedicate the next ten months of his life to saving the theater, finally getting the attention and support of Ann Arbor's mayor.

"In 1979, I was one of the Incorporating Officers of the Michigan Theater Foundation. I was the main person who initiated the effort to save the Michigan, but the nonprofit Foundation itself was created by the Mayor," he says. "In 1982, Russell B. Collins was appointed as Executive Director of the Michigan Theater and he's been the main person responsible for the beautiful transformation of the Michigan."

According to Aldridge, in late January 2011, the Michigan Theater is going to be an official venue of the Sundance Film Festival. Aldridge just wrote a book about the theater entitled, 'The Michigan Theater: Ann Arbor's Center for Fine Film and the Performing Arts Since 1928," which will be released sometime this year.

In addition to his love of film, the pipe organ and the historic Michigan Theater, Aldridge also loves to travel. Through an EMU faculty-exchange program, he was selected to teach film studies for a three month term in 1981 at the University of

Reading in Berkshire, England, which he says was "an immensely enjoyable experience."

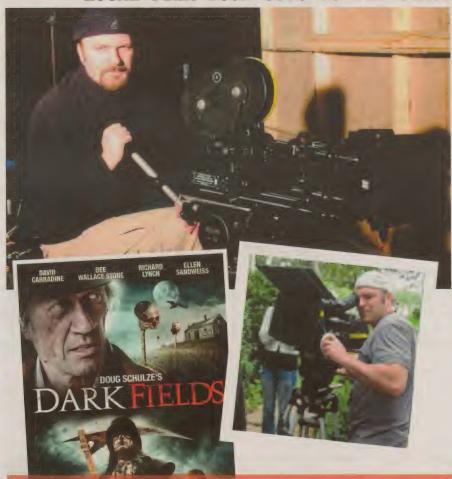
"I love watching and discussing movies wherever I'm at," he says.

Aldridge has been to Europe fifteen times. He's been on seven ocean cruises since 1963, and, in 2006, he started the EMU Italian Cinema study abroad trip to Rome, which he says is his "all-time favorite destination spot."

Aldrich has made his mark on the academic and arts world with his published work (two textbooks and over 40 nationally renowned articles). However, he is also a family man (he has a daughter who lives in New Hampshire). Aside from film, Aldridge has a well-preserved collection of over 2,000 classical and jazz LP's in the basement of his Ann Arbor home (he also loves classical music). In addition to his work at EMU and the Michigan Theater, he spends his time playing his Steinway Grand Piano, ballroom dancing and exercising via riding his Schwinn Sierra bicycle.

EMYOU!]

LOCAL FILM ICON CUTS TO THE CHASE



"KURT AND I WERE GETTING INVITED SO OFTEN TO ADVISE OTHER ASPIRING FILMMAKERS THAT STARTING A FILM SCHOOL SEEMED LIKE A NATURAL PROGRESSION FOR US. IT GREW FROM US OFFERING WEEKEND WORKSHOPS TO GETTING LICENSED AND **CREATING A FORMAL CURRICULUM."** 

The true beating heart of the Michigan film industry will always be independent film. No one understands this better than Doug Schulze.

Schulze was born in Detroit in 1964, but his family moved to Waterford a few years after the 1967 Detroit Riots. He's an independent film producer, writer and director and received his Bachelors of Science in Cinematic Arts from Eastern Michigan University in 1997.

"I remember my favorite professors were Lucy Liggett and Henry Aldridge. I absolutely loved Aldridge's film theory classes. He's a wonderful gentleman and outstanding teacher," Schulze recollects.

"I'm very pro alma mater. EMU offered me a great education and great networking experience. My true film education, though, was directly participating in the independent film movement outside of formal EMU," says

Schulze wrote, produced and directed Hellmaster (92), Dark Heaven (02) and Dark Fields (09) starring David Carradine, shortly before his autoerotic asphyxiation in Thailand.

"I've always loved film ever since my parents took me to see 2001: A Space Odyssey back in 1968, and I've never really considered doing anything else for a living besides making movies," says Schulze. "My two biggest cinematic inspirations are George Romero and Stanley Kubrick. Romero represents the achievable for those who aren't LA film schooled, while Kubrick is the classic artist whom you aspire to be as good as."

"When not making my own films, I'm busy critiquing student movies," he says.

Schulze is also founder, CEO and head instructor at the Motion Picture Institute of Michigan, Michigan's first licensed film school.

"MPI offers immediate gear access to state of the art equipment and DIY hands on training," he says.

Schulze opened the school in 1995 in Troy, along with his friend, University of Michigan grad, Kurt Mayry. MPI has roughly 100 students per year. The total cost to attend is \$10,500, and students attend class all year round, consisting of three formal 12 hour days a week, then an additional minimum of 12 out of class hours spent writing, rehearsing, editing, etc., making it a very intense, hands-on school.

"Kurt and I were getting invited so often to advise other aspiring filmmakers that starting a film school seemed like a natural progression for us. It grew from us offering weekend workshops to getting licensed and creating a formal curriculum," he says. "It's a very rewarding experience, being able to teach film [...] I critique and shepherd and dictate the curriculum at MPI and continue to mentor grads. '

Both through MPI and the creation of his own films. Schulze is instrumental in continuing to solidify Michigan's presence in the film industry. Every movie Schulze and his crew have produced was shot in Michigan.

"Hellmaster was shot at Clinton Valley insane asylum in Pontiac," he says. "We had to write to Governor Engler to get access, and he was very supportive. [It's a] beautiful building with Russian pillars and gorgeous archwaysand we could sometimes hear patients, a few wings over, screaming. It was spooky."

Schulze and his crew just shot Mimesis, a zombie movie about people who mimic, starring Sid Haig (famous for his roles in Spider Baby, Coffy, Jackie Brown and House of 1000 Corpses).

"Mimesis took 12 weeks preproduction and was shot in 24 days over the summer of 2010," he says. "It was a wonderful experience."

MPI will be relocating to the 200,000 square foot Raleigh Studios in Pontiac in March 2011. And, if that isn't enough excitement, Schulze and his wife are celebrating their tenth anniversary in May and have a baby girl on the way.

Motion Picture Institute of Michigan is located at 1116 East Big Beaver road in Troy and can be reached by phone at 248-528-1760. Check out MIP on the web at: www. mpifilm.com.



PHOTO: BRUNO POSTIGO -

Eastern Michigan's women's basketball program might provide a contradiction to the old Bill Parcells line, "You are what your record says you are."

The Eagles' record says they're a 9-5 team-which typically translates to good, but not great. However, EMU may be the best team in the country to come out of its non-conference schedule with five losses. And, while a 9-5 record and an RPI in the triple digits may not sound terribly impressive, consider that the Eagles have only one loss that can be considered "bad," yet several impressive wins.

Their losses came at Ohio State (ranked No. 7 at the time), against Green Bay (then No. 21), at Missouri State (9-3), against the Pac-10's Oregon State (7-4) and Detroit (6-5). The Detroit loss was disappointing because, at home, the Eagles took a 12-point lead with 6:05 to play and yet lost by two. But Detroit showed their potential by beating a good University of Michigan team in Ann Arbor by a score of 67-48. And a week and a half later, EMU made up for the Detroit game.

"I'd like the Detroit game back, but we stole the Temple game - a game that I don't think anybody in America bet on us to win," coach Ann Marie Gilbert said after the team's last non-conference game. Temple has made the NCAA Tournament the past seven seasons and was one of many difficult opponents Eastern faced in their non-conference schedule.

"Our preseason schedule was set up for us to be successful," Gilbert said. "We do believe that Ohio State, Missouri State. Temple, those games prepared us, [and] Wisconsin-Green Bay, who knocked our socks off. Those teams prepared us for what we're going to face in the conference season."

Plus, the team seems to be peaking at the right time. An 89-34 rout of Niagara at the Convocation Center on Dec. 28 marked the fourth-largest victory margin in Convocation Center history, along with setting a record

for fewest points scored by a Division I team in the Convo's history. The defense set the records, but the improved offense made Gilbert happier.

"Their confidence was shaken because none of their shots were falling," Gilbert said of her team. "And they were saying 'Coach, we know we can shoot.' We're not shooting as well as we did a year ago. But to see some of those shots go in for us tonight was tremendous. And that gives us a good feeling heading into [conference play].'

The Mid-American Conference is predictably tough this year. Perennial power Bowling Green has won 12 in a row after losing its opener. Kent State is 9-3 and Central Michigan, picked to win the MAC West instead of Eastern, is 8-4. But, with four players averaging in double figures in scoring, EMU has to be considered among the conference's elite and a decent bet to win the MAC and make the NCAA Tournament.

Statistics current as of January 4.

wings

<<<<< BY JASON IDALSKI

IN SCORING. EMU HAS TO BE

CONFERENCE'S

WIN THE MAC AKE THE NCAA

TOURNAMENT.



PHOTO: BRUNO POSTIGO

# men's hoops: recap. regroup. ready to roll.

BY JASON IDALSKI >>>>>>

those three wins all come against non-Division I teams? They're supposed to be automatic Ws for their opponents in games that aren't close. They're supposed to be young with a lot of bad players.

And yet none of those describe Eastern Michigan's men's basketball team. So, while they have a 3-10 record, perhaps they're not a 3-10 team? Their statistics aren't the statistics of a 3-10 team.

Ken Pomeroy's site, kenpom.com, ranks the Eagles 335<sup>th</sup> of 345 Division I teams in the "luck" factor, thanks to single-digit losses at James Madison (six), vs. Monmouth (one), vs. North Dakota (five), against Drake (four), against Detroit (three, in overtime), against Valparaiso (seven), and on New Year's Eve at Samford. However, the Samford game was a kind of microcosm of the Eagles' season.

Leading an 8-5 team at their place by six with 3:25 left, the Bulldogs closed the game on a 12-2 run. The Eagles led or were tied for the last 38 minutes of that game ... except for the final 39 seconds. Against Monmouth, with 13 seconds left, the Eagles led by two and were about to shoot two free throws. Somehow, they managed to lose in regulation. EMU is probably the only team in the country with seven single-digit losses in its first 12 games, with seven single-digit losses in a span of nine games.

How many 3-10 teams have a guy averaging 20 points

and 10 rebounds? Brandon Bowdry has been the star he was expected to be before the season, including performances of 32 points and 15 rebounds at Michigan State and 31 points and 19 rebounds against Detroit.

How many 3-10 teams average seven made 3-pointers a game? Eastern has made a respectable 91 3-pointers this year with its exciting offense.

Things seem to be turning around. While a 76-60 win over Division II Ferris State might be discounted, the Eagles looked impressive for long stretches against a solid team.

"This is huge," EMU coach Charles Ramsey said after the Ferris game Jan. 4 about the team's momentum and confidence. "And I'm glad for the guys that we were able to do some things and get a lead, keep a lead and finish it off."

Ramsey sees the positive in the Eagles' close losses.

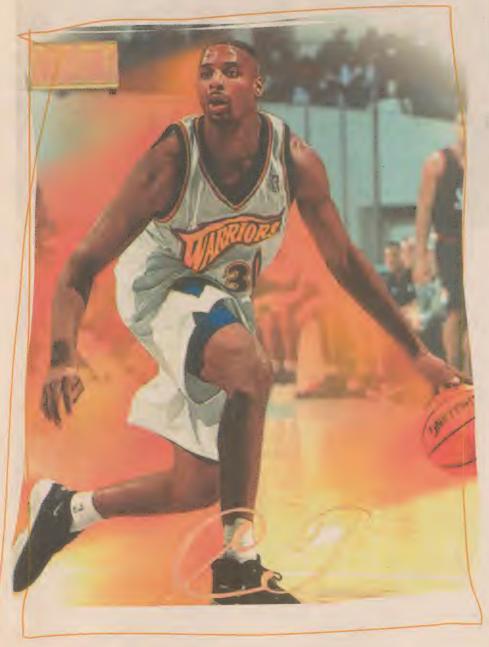
"The good thing is, as you look at the scoreboards around the league and around the country, teams are getting blown out. We haven't gotten blown out. We've given ourselves opportunities. Now, we have to figure out how to get that last little stretch in," he said after the Ferris game. "I've been looking [at] teams losing by 30, 40, 50. And I'm like, 'We haven't been in that position.' So that's a good thing."

Hopefully for the Eagles more good things are in store in Mid-American Conference play, like the luck factor evening out.

Statistics current as of Jan. 5.

# **Thomas: fighting** to put EMU back on top

BY JASON IDALSKI >>>>>>>





It's about 10 minutes before the Eastern Michigan men's basketball team tips off against Northern Illinois. A tall, smartly dressed man takes long strides across the Convocation Center court. As he reaches his destination, he smiles.

As he approaches the men broadcasting the game for WEMU, he extends his fist. After a couple fist bumps, he walks back across the court toward the locker room.

For assistant coach Carl Thomas, it's a ritual. Coaches are notoriously superstitious "creatures of habit" (as Thomas put it), and, before a game in his first season, he "dapped up" then-radio man Brian Nemerovski. The Eagles won that night, and Nemerovski joked that it was because of their pregame gesture. Though Thomas said that EMU lost the next time he did it, it's been a pregame staple ever since.

EMU Basketball is in Thomas' family. In fact, both Carl and his twin brother. Charles (who is now coaching at Akron), played for the then-Hurons. The two were responsible for some of the brightest moments in EMU basketball history. Eastern made the NCAA Tournament in 1988, the Thomases' freshman year, and made the Sweet 16 in 1991, their senior year.

"We always talk about, even to this day, how we came in on top and we left on top," Carl Thomas said.

In that Sweet 16 game against North Carolina, Thomas tells a story of how facing off against twins could confound opposing coaches and players. Rick Fox,

"I'M AN EASTERN MICHIGAN GUY THROUGH AND THROUGH. I LOVE BEING BACK HOME."

who went on to play in the NBA, said that when he got back in transition, that he had to train himself to look at the players' numbers. Otherwise, he wouldn't know which twin he had to cover.

Carl Thomas is entering his sixth season as assistant coach at Eastern, having been head coach Charles Ramsey's righthand man since Ramsey took the job in 2005. Ramsey and Thomas are longtime family friends, and, a couple years before the job was open, with EMU struggling under Jim Boone, Ramsey had his eye on the position.

Seeing Thomas' parents at a wedding, he told them, according to Thomas: "If I get this job in a couple years, I'm going to hire one of the twins." A couple years later, Ramsey did get the job, and one of his first phone calls was to Carl Thomas.

"He called me when he got the job and said, 'I got the job-you're talking to your new boss," Thomas said.

Thomas' playing career took him to many locations, playing in the CBA for Fort Wayne and Grand Rapids, and being called up to the NBA five times for stints in Sacramento, Cleveland, Golden State and Orlando. After that, he played overseas in France, Sweden, Greece and Italy before becoming a coach. Now he's home again, trying to lift EMU to heights not seen since he was a player.

"I'm an Eastern Michigan guy through and through. I love being back home," Thomas said. "I would do anything it takes to have my [...] school get back on top."



# **EMU on 2011 Pro Bowl ballot**

BY MARISSA MCNEES >>>>>>>

Only a select number of players make it on the NFL's Pro Bowl ballot, and even fewer get the honor of playing in this all-star game. While making it on that final roster is a rare honor, being placed on the ballot deserves recognition as well.

Two former EMU players earned that recognition this season. Tennessee Titans defensive tackle, Jason Jones and Houston Texans wide receiver, Kevin Walter, were both placed on the 2011 NFL Pro Bowl ballot.

Walter, who was drafted in the seventh round of the 2003 NFL draft by the New York Giants, set several school records as an Eagle, including receptions (211), receiving yards (2.838) and touchdown catches (20). In his senior year at EMU, Walter received All-MAC honors and set two single-season records for receptions

and receiving yards.

As a pro, Walter had a brief tenure with the Cincinnati Bengals where he was mainly a backup and special teams player, however he did make several starts in 2005. After being signed with the Texans, Walter was the team's number one receiver after an injury to Pro-Bowler Andre Johnson. Nearing the end of the 2010 season, Walter has 48 receptions for 587 yards and averages 11.8 yards per reception, second-highest on the

Jones, who was selected in the second round of the 2008 NFL Draft by the Tennessee Titans, made his mark while at EMU. As a junior, Jones ranked fifth in the nation in tackles for losses with 18.5 tackles for losses of 71 yards. In his senior year as an Eagle, Jones gained more national

rankings with his career-high 19.5 stops for losses, making him tied for seventh in the NCAA in this category, and received third-team All-American honors and first-team All-MAC honors.

KEVIN WALTER PHOTO: ASSOCIATED PRESS

PHOTO CREDITS: JASON JONES PHOTO: JOHN SLEEZER, TITANSONLINE.COM

In his three years with the Titans, Jones has been making an impact on defense. As a rookie, Jones recorded the best single-game sack total by a Titan since 1993. In that same season, Jones also had the most sacks among all rookie defensive lineman. In 2010, with one game remaining in the regular season, Jones has made 33 solo tackles and 3.5 sacks, bringing his career total to 12.5 sacks.

Tune in to the 2011 Pro Bowl on January 30 at 7 p.m. on Fox.



In his senior year as an Eagle, Jones gained more national rankings with his career-high 19.5 stops for losses, making him tied for seventh in the NCAA in this category.





By Thomas Dodd



PHOTO: METROMODE.COM

Our ornate cornices were removed for safety reasons nearly half a century ago but regular upkeep and artful paint jobs still invite close-up admiration of the upper stories

# Second - [3rd & 4th] story men [& women] Prosper in this Old Neighborhood

"My wife used to drive me to drink," one local denizen liked to say, "but now that I live down here I can walk!"

There's more truth than fiction in that cheesy gag line. Demographers note more people are giving up automobiles for public transportation from their innercity residences. Some even more practical folk live so close to their work that they walk. Still others just slide down the stairs from their beds and land at their workstations.

What seems a new phenomenon is really an old residential/commercial concept. Ancient Greeks and Romans built their shops right up to the curb and grouped their family living quarters around a courtyard in the back. Charles Dickens' London saw merchants lodge their families in back of—or above—their shops. New York City residents saw nothing unusual about living above the bakery, bar, or bistro. Ypsilanti's two commercial districts were built that way originally, saw vacancies in the 1960s, and then opened their high-

ceilinged spacious rooms to inhabitants once more as creative personalities eschewed the 'burbs for a more community-connected Life-In-The-Big-City.

None of Depot Town's upstairs spaces connect through interior stairways any more. There are still locals who remember the steps at Weber Drug (Aubree's Saloon West) and McPherson & House Groceries (Enchanted Florist) that led to the owners' digs above.

Sidewalk strollers take for granted the tiny doorbells and residential mailboxes at front doors between display windows up and down E. Cross and N. River streets. Those are the entrances to upstairs apartments that have seen intense redesign over the years. Many have been featured on home tours in August and December, but they remain exclusive and private sanctuaries the rest of the year. Herewith, we feature some of the unique activities that hover above the more familiar street life in the neighborhood.

# There's lofty thinking up here

Travel down Michigan Avenue all the way to downtown Detroit and hang your head out the car window like a happy dog on a hot day and you'll pass hundreds of former upstairs commercial properties in old neighborhoods that will break your heart. Boarded-up windows or stacks of boxes in permanent storage indicate these units are no longer inhabited by humans. Only bats, varmints, and rats live there now.

That's too bad. In a time when good housing is a priority, many potential living spaces have been given over to "benign neglect" or "deferred maintenance"—modern terms for "too lazy to make your own bed."

Ypsilanti, however, seemed to miss out on that ethic and stands as a good example of folks still enjoying the vicissitudes of the nineteenth century in modern times.

# Reap the benefits of living waaaay upstairs

- Better air circulation and heat disribution with 16'-18' ceilings
- · Back porches with cool stuff to watch
- · Go downstairs for a beer or sandwich
- Friends are closer/privacy guaranteed
- · Walk to breakfast, lunch, and dinner
- Daily aerobic workouts on the stairs
- Carry groceries from one of the few grocery stores left in the city: Ypsilanti Food Co-op
- Little danger from Huron River flooding
- Easiest access to the Farmers' Market
- Private box seats for train-watching
- Riverside and Frog Island Parks for your back yard
- Door-to-door salespeople can't find you... but the Home Tour planners sure can!

## DEPOT TOWN RAG -

# pstairs at an old railroad saloon

"Jitterbug" wouldn't know the place today. He lived upstairs at the Oliver House/Alibi Bar (now Aubree's Saloon) for thirty-two years and was the last resident to leave in 1975 when Bill French bought the bar from his dad and decided to start renovating the second floor. A fire the previous year had convinced most of the tenants to leave, but Jitterbug, aka Bill Platt, was a part-time bartender and clean-up man in that building which had been a railroad hotel since 1870. He saw little reason

to leave.

French well remembers the search they conducted to try to retrieve Jitterbug's ivory-handled pool cue that had fallen behind the back bar. They never were able to get it out, but was about to be demolished and they may still find it - as extensive remodeling continues in the area's oldest continuous-use facility.

Jitterbug is gone now, but his ghost may still inhabit the room he kept for a large part of his life. Although that space was quite utilitarian during the

first big remodeling process, the finished product fools most casual observers. To keep the addition authentic, the Frenches bought another building in Jackson that moved the tin ceiling, wainscoting, trim and other nineteenth century niceties for installation in their new, second floor restaurant. The first upstairs commercial property on the block in recent years started out serving Mexican and American food and then featured live music

jazz performances. Today it's called "Sticks" and has enough pool tables to extend a Willow Run-way. There's even a second-story deck with a great view of the Freighthouse and MCRR depot. And it's all done up in a Key West style for summer sitting.

Watch for Jitterbug. He's still there - in an old photo of a horse drawn Goebel Brewery wagon unloading kegs in front of Weber Drug and the Oliver House.

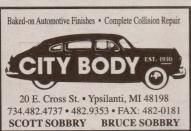
### O: What's our most expansive upstairs space?

### A: The serpentine balcony at the Michigan Firehouse Museum overlooking 26,000 square feet

The Firehouse Museum's 2010 Christmas display. There's more upstairs access at all three museums in Depot Town: Ypsilanti Historical Museum is a "house museum" with nineteenth century rooms furnished in the manner of the Daniel Quirk family, Ypsilanti Auto Museum has Hudson motorcar memorabilia in a second floor many never knew existed. Browsers are greatly rewarded when they explore the local collections.

SPONSORS OF THE DEPOT TOWN RAG >>>>









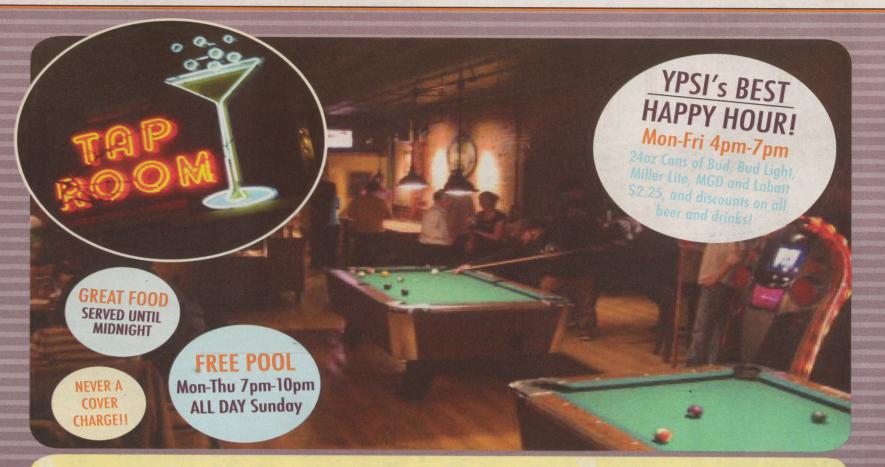












#### · · · Mondays · · ·

High Life Bottles \$2.00 Molson Bottles \$2.25 and
Pinnacle Drinks \$2.75
FREE WII BOWLING

#### • • • Tuesdays • • •

Absolut Drinks \$2.75 Bud/Bud light/Miller Lite Pints \$2.00 Jan. 11, 18, & 25: Live Jazz with Alexander Graham

#### • • • Wednesdays • • •

Well Drinks \$2.00, Mexican Beer Bottles \$2.75

### • • • Thursdays • • •

Stoli Drinks \$2.75, All 25oz. Drafts \$3.25

Open Mic with the Martindales

#### • • • Fridays • • •

Bacardi Drinks \$2.50, Bell's Pints \$2.50
Jan. 21: Zombie Squad 8pm

#### • • • Saturdays • • •

Well drinks \$2.00, Killians/Labatt Pints \$2.25

Jan. 15: Matthew Cifaldi wsg Lindsay Lou & The Flatbellys 9:30pm

Jan. 29: Ann Arbor Music Center Adult Blues Showcase 6pm,

Jan. 29: Bull Halsey 9:30pm

#### · · · Sundays · · ·

Get Your Can In Here! 24oz cans of Bud, Bud Light
Miller Lite, MGD, and Labatt \$2.25 Noon - 7pm
Clear Calls \$2.50, Michigan Beer Bottles \$2.75 All Day.
Stoo's Karaoke 9:30 - 1:30

## Lunch Special 11am - 3pm weekdays

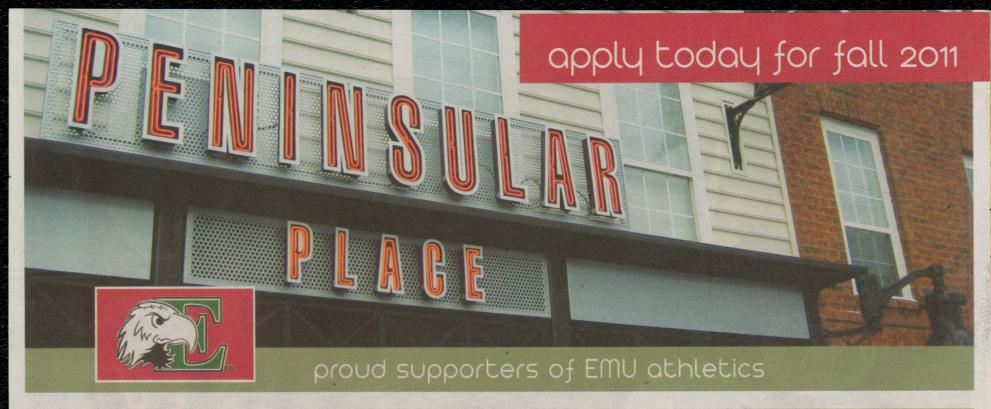
5 great menu items for \$5! Including the world famous Tap Room Burger!

The Tap Room

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